proceeded against under Section 90 of the Criminal Procedure Code in connection with the anti-tapping movement ?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR : Section 90 of the Criminal Procedure Code applies to security proceedings taken by a Magistrate when he receives information that a person is likely to commit a breach of the peace or to do any wrongful act that may probably occasion a breach of the peace. The connection in which this conduct occurs is immaterial. Government do not therefore propose to collect the information required by the member.

MR. M. R. MADHAVA VARIAR : Are Government aware of any such cases in connection with the anti-tapping movement?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR : The Government are only aware that security proceedings have been taken under Section 90 of the Criminal Procedure Code. Whether they are in connection with anti-tapping or not is not known.

Tapping and Excise Officers.

10. MR. M. R. MADHAVA VARIAR : (*a*) Are the Government aware that some Excise Officers are preaching the benefits of tapping ?

(*b*) Do they encourage tapping under orders from the Government ?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR : (*a*) & (*b*) The answer is in the negative.

MR. M. R. MADHAVA VARIAR: Do the Government know that in some newspapers it was stated that the Assistant Excise Commissioner, Mr. T. V. Ramakrishna Aiyar, delivered a lecture on tapping at Alleppey at a public meeting?

PRESIDENT : That question has to be disallowed, Mr. Madhava Variar. I have already ruled that no question based on a newspaper article can be answered.

Ezhavas and the Excise Department.

11. MR. K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI: (*a*) Are the Government aware that there is an impression among certain classes of people that the Government refuse to appoint Ezhava candidates in the Excise Department on the ground that they would encourage illicit distillation ?

(*b*) Will the Government be pleased to place on the table the number of Ezhavas holding appointments in the various grades of the Excise Department ?

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MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR: (*a*) The answer is in the negative.

(*b*)

1. Assistant Commissioner	...	Nil.
2. Inspector	...	1
3. Sub-Inspectors	...	8
4. Clerks	...	3
5. Petty Officers	...	3
6. Peons	...	28

Widening the Alwaye Railway Bridge for Cart Traffic.

12. THE REV. FR. KURIAKOSE VETTIKKAPALLI: Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have come to any definite decision as to the widening of the Alwaye railway bridge so as to render it useful for cart-traffic as well, and, if not, why?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI: The Governments of Travancore and Cochin have come to an agreement as regards the fitting up of the railway bridges over the Alwaye main and branch rivers for road traffic. The cost will be borne in equal shares by the two Governments. Arrangements are in progress for the necessary investigation and the preparation of estimates.

Delay in acquiring Lands for Roads.

13. THE REV. FR. KURIAKOSE VETTIKKAPALLI: (*a*) Are the Government aware that the present protracted method of road-construction is, in many cases, partly due to the unnecessary delay caused by the land acquisition proceedings of the Land Revenue Department?

(*b*) Is it not possible to expedite land acquisition work by investing the superior officers of the P. W. D. with the power to acquire lands required for road construction, by introducing the necessary amendments in the Land Acquisition Regulation?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI: (*a*) Government are not aware of any undue delay in acquiring lands for road construction. The several steps prescribed by the law have to be taken and this must take some time. In urgent cases, the emergency Section of the Regulation is being availed of and immediate possession of lands given whenever necessary.

(*b*) Government do not consider it desirable to invest P. W. D. Officers with the powers of a Division Peishkar under the Land Acquisition Regulation.

THE REV. FR. KURIAKOSE VETTIKAPALLI: Do Government know why the sums budgeted for the Manjapara-Angamali road and the Kizhakambalam-Alwaye road were not utilised last year?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI: Government have no information on that point.

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